



The Halyard

A weekly newsletter for Virginia's Library Media Specialists August 13, 2004

Charlie's chatter

Welcome Back! I certainly hope that you have taken the opportunity to rest and relax some this summer. It sure seems that time flies during June to August. Whoever said that educators have six weeks off in the summer has never seen the professional development requirements for today's public school educators. I know that many of you attended workshops and training sponsored by your NCLB consortiums in addition to opportunities provided by your local school divisions. We had a wonderful response to the FinditVA workshops that were held in July. We hope to plan more of these half-day activities later in the fall.

I attended the VEMA professional development day in July and was very impressed by the quality of the sessions. Each of the speakers was well prepared and knowledgeable. I send many thanks to Elizabeth Woodward for coordinating such a great day for us. I will be sharing some of what I learned in future Halyards.

The Halyard has a new masthead for this year. I wanted something to encourage us to look to the horizon. We have at our disposal the resources and tools that we need to serve our students and faculty but we must be aware of the changing winds and tides that will cause us to adjust our sails. As you meet with your staff and administration begin to think about ways you can sail the library program into each classroom within your building. Gather your crew of supporters and plan for recruiting others. Ask yourself what is it that I can do to make this library more essential to the teachers and students?

Powder your hands, grab hold of the lines and set the sails for another year sailing to the Bay of Academic Achievement!

Cargo To Load

Web sites of interest

KidsPoint.org

From Central Rappahannock Regional Library Fredericksburg
featured in SLJ, May 2004

<http://www.netalert.net.au/schools>

An Internet safety education program, NetAlert CyberSafe Schools



We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails.



Free teacher resources including a Teacher's Guide to Internet Safety and an Internet Safety Wall Chart are available for download.



Funding and Grants

\$5,000 National Library Week grant available; 2005 theme is "Something for everyone @ your library" U.S. libraries of all types are invited to apply for the 2005 Scholastic Library/Grolier National Library Week Grant. The grant will award \$5,000 to a single library for the best public awareness campaign during National Library Week (April 10-16, 2005) that uses the National Library Week 2005 theme of "Something for everyone @ your library."

The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and its publishing imprint Grolier and is administered by the Public Awareness Committee of the American Library Association (ALA). This year's application deadline is October 18, 2004.

All proposals must use the "Something for everyone @ your library" theme, which incorporates The Campaign for America's Libraries' @ your library brand, on any and all promotional and publicity material supporting the National Library Week activities. The theme was chosen by the ALA's National Library Week Subcommittee for its broad appeal and ability to be adapted by different libraries. Guidelines for using the @ your library brand are available on the campaign Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary under the "Download logos" section.

A grant application form and guidelines are available on The Campaign for America's Libraries Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/nlwgrant. Information also is available from the ALA Public Information Office. Telephone: 800-545-2433, ext. 4020. E-mail: mhumphrey@ala.org.

The winner will be notified the first week in January and announced at the 2005 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston. Information on last year's winner, the St. Mary Parish Library in Franklin, La., and the winning application can be viewed at www.ala.org/ala/pr2004/prjan2004/stmaryparish.htm.

For more information about The Campaign for America's Libraries, visit the campaign's Web site at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary.



Charts, Plans , and other Navigational Tool s

"School Libraries Work!"

This research foundation paper brings together position statements from a variety of organizations and findings from nearly a decade of empirical studies that cite the measurable impact of school libraries and library media specialists on learning outcomes. The report shows that school libraries administered by certified library media specialists are a powerful force in the lives of America's children.

A PDF version of "School Libraries Work!" can be downloaded from the Scholastic Library Publishing Web site at <http://www.scholasticlibrary.com>



We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails.



POWER TOOLS RECHARGED –Get ready to hear Joyce at VEMA!

It's back: recharged, better and more needed than ever. **Joyce Kasman Valenza's** *Power Tools Recharged: 125+ Essential Forms and Presentations for Your School Library Information Program* is a completely revised hands-on guide to address library media specialists' most pressing issues. Affected by new technologies and information literacy standards, schools now face accountability, funding and legislative issues that reshape daily practices. Library media centers are crucial to assist schools in meeting new standards, while also educating students to deal with an information- saturated world.

Library media specialists have to communicate the benefits of their achievements to administrators, teachers, students, parents and community leaders. Here are the tools to simplify your job and lead change, even when time is at a premium. Use customizable forms, letters, brochures, handouts and presentations to communicate the value of what you do to different audiences.

Owners of the previous *Power Tools* will welcome this recharged edition, complete with all the forms on CD-ROM, making for easy customization.

Power Tools Recharged (ISBN 0-8389-0880-2; ALA Order No. 0880-2-2343) is available from ALA Order Fulfillment at 866-746-7252, fax 770-280-4155 or online at <http://www.alastore.ala.org>

Treasures Found

The Status of Public and Private School Library Media Centers in the United States: 1999 –2000

National Center for Education Statistics

<http://www.nces.ed.gov/pubs2004/2004313.pdf>

This report contains interesting statistics showing how Virginia's library program compares to other states around the nation.

Virginia is above the national average in almost all areas. We exceed the national average in *number of schools* with paid library media specialists with 95.4% versus 75.2%. Virginia has a higher average of library *media specialists with master's degrees*, 48.7 to 41.6. Our average *expenditure for books* is about the same, 63.9% of the budget to 65.1% of the budget nationwide. Our *collection size* is larger 12,229 to 10,232 and we acquired more books 770 to 488.



We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails.

